How to use VTEC in Test Mode

Page 3 of 120 taken from WWA OB4 User's Manual
http://www.nws.noaa.gov/mdl/wwa/docs/OB4/WWA-OB4-UsersManual.pdf

Figure 3 - WWA Composer Interface
1.1.2. WWA Composer
The WWA Composer is used to define the mode, hazard type, time fields, free text editing, call-to-action statements and more during the product generation process. This interface breaks down into six major sections as identified in figure 3. The WWA Composer menu bar options are listed below, **black** for active and **grey** for inactive functions:

File: Contains a *Close* selection to exit the WWA Composer interface.
Options: Menu selection to assist the product generation process.
Forecaster Ctrl+F: Selection to launch a list of predefined forecaster identifications, appended to the end of issued products. Default setting is "off" or no selection.
Format Forecaster's: Cascading menu to toggle between forecasters name or number as defined in the database.
Name Ctrl+A: Radio button selection using forecaster name.
Number Ctrl+b: Radio button selection using forecaster id.
Mode: Cascading menu to toggle between *Active*, *Practice*, *Test*, and *Proposed* modes..
Active: Default and operational setting.
In-House Practice: A function to generate WWA products without actually disseminating publicly.

Page 4 of 120
Proposed: Setting used as an intersite coordination tool. Not used for public dissemination.
Live Comm Test: Sets the WWA application to work exactly like the active function, with the word
"TEST" strategically placed in the final product, for the purpose of testing end to end product issuance.
Products will disseminate publicly.
Tone Alert: Selection that cascades into a *Yes*, *No*, *Default* toggle where selecting *Yes* will tone alert the
generated product on NWR, *No* will not tone alert on NWR, and *Default* will tone based on the CRS
configuration setting of the generated product.
Product/VTEC Type: Default override of the VTEC product class field. Operationally this option will be rarely
used. For more information on the product class or VTEC in general reference policy document 10-1703.
Site: Displays id of active site.
Reset: Cascading menu into various reset functions described below.
All: Resets the following: overview/synopsis & descriptive text fields, GeoViewer, time functions,
tone alert, bullets, headlines, and hazard menu selections to the default settings.

Times: Resets the beginning, duration, and expiration time fields located on the WWA composer to
the default values.

Geography: Resets any selected zone/county fields located in the active GeoViewer map
to the default setting.

Bullets: Resets any selected bullets located on the WWA composer interface to the default
setting.

Help: Contains Help functions.

Help Menu: Option to launch WWA Online Help guide.

The Composer presents a nationally supported selectable list of hazard types (2) in a drop
down menu.

This list is nationally supported to ensure database integrity, however local settings of
each hazard remains the
responsibility of the WFO. For more information on how to configure WWA reference
section 2 of this
document along with the WWA Admin Users Manual referenced in section 4.3. For a
complete list hazard
types reference section 1.1.

Generated WWA products require four unique time fields (3) defined by the forecaster
during the
preparation process. These time fields are:

HazBegins: Hazard start time. By default the current time.

HazDuration: How long hazard will be valid. Setting this time field whether through the
provided 3hr, 6hr, 12hr,
24hr buttons or through the entry box will automatically adjust the *Expires* and *ProdExp* time
fields.

HazExpires: Forecast end time of hazard. Time used in Headline & VTEC Product Expiration
Time.

ProdExp: WWA product expiration time. IE, the purge time provided to UGC time/date field.

Many NWS products require forecaster free text input consisting of overview/synopsis
and/or
descriptive text. This dynamic text is entered into appropriate Free Text Editor (FTE)
launched from the WWA
Composer Overview/Synopsis and Descriptive Text buttons (4). For more information on
the FTE or capturing
free text reference section 1.1.4. of this document.

Optional Bullets, or commonly addressed as Call-to-Action Statements, are presented to
the forecaster in
a multi-selectable list box (5). Bullet definitions are retrieved from associated WWA
template files predefined
by the WWA Administrator.

Finally, the ability to transmit, store, reset, or backout from the WWA composer can be
found on the
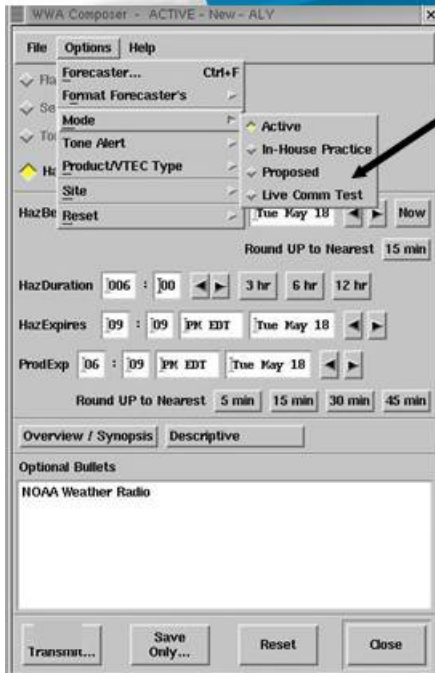interfaces button bar (6). Four options are provided:

Edit & Transmit...: Launch WWA transmit editor to make any final edits, and transmit.

Save Only...: Save defined segment to WWA Monitor. Typically done as part of multi-
segmented product
generation.

Reset: Reset the current WWA Composer & GeoViewer to default settings.
Close: Close the WWA Composer interface.